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**From:** YScuba [mailto:YScuba@californiadivers.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, August 27, 2005 11:42 PM

**To:** MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

**Subject:** MLPAComments: For Your Information

Dear MLPA Staff and others,

I am forwarding an email response to a posting on a recreational diving listserve. I believe this subject of "enforcement" difficulties was previously raised before the BRTF.

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Chuck,

I believe the Captain of the Sur Randy is, or at least used to be Bill Williamson, and he was previously a commercial passenger fishing vessel stakeholder representative on the 2001 round of the Marine Life Protection Act. The MLPA is the State law to create marine protected areas along the coast of California. Marine protected areas includes marine reserves like Point Lobos. While the Statewide committee was meeting to discuss the implementation of the Act, the Captain of the Sur Randy, sitting as a stakeholder rep., suggested that party boat CPFVs should be empowered to patrol the new MPAs to monitor and police the commercial fishermen from poaching. During this early process of the MLPA process, the DFG was coincidentally conducting a Statewide undercover surveillance of several CPFV operators. I believe the owner of the Randy Sur was one of the CPFVs netted in the dragnet. He was removed from the MLPA stakeholder committee, and criminally prosecuted. Considering the previous apparent criminal behavior of this operator, I believe a call to DFG enforcement might have been (or still is) in order. If we allow someone to blatantly and deliberately enter a State Marine Reserve so close to a population center without consequence, the protections and security of newly created MPAs will continue to be in jeopardy. I encourage all of us to call DFG enforcement on these kinds of violations. These are either deliberate encroachments or acts of such great incompetence that their commercial license to operate a CPFV should be challenged.

Jesús C. Ruiz

MLPA Diver Stakeholder Representative